

SECRET CONTROL

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

CONTROL

INSTRUCTIONS: Officer designations (see separate sheet) should be used in the "To" column. Under each comment a line should be drawn across sheet and each comment numbered to correspond with the number in the "To" column. Each officer should initial (check mark insufficient) before further routing. This Record and Routing Sheet should be returned to Registry.

FROM:

ACCESSION NO.

KPL-341
DATE RECEIVED IN S. A.

20 June 1947

TO	ROOM NO.	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS
		RECEIVED	FORWARDED		
1. <i>FBK</i>	<i>2281</i>			<i>cf.</i>	<p><i>Date of Report: 28 May 1947</i></p> <p align="center">CONTROL</p> <p><i>Carding - POR.</i></p> <p><i>Checked - 20 June 47</i></p> <p><i>I know Subject rather well. Do you wish evaluation of individual as source? (at Hqs.)</i></p> <p><i>para. 5</i></p> <p align="right">DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 382B NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT DATE 2007</p> <p align="center">RECORDED</p> <p align="center">OSO Registry AUG 20 1948</p> <p align="right"><i>y23</i></p>
2. <i>[initials]</i>		<i>6-23</i>		<i>S.T.</i>	
4. <i>FBP10</i>	<i>1216</i>	<i>June 20 1947</i>		<i>H</i>	
5. <i>B-5</i>				<i>S</i>	
6. <i>SPD-S</i>	<i>2446</i>	<i>JUN 27 1947</i>		<i>LC</i>	
7. <i>[initials]</i>	<i>2281</i>		<i>AUG 5</i>	<i>[initials]</i>	
9. <i>[initials]</i>					
10. <i>[initials]</i>					
11. <i>[initials]</i>					
12. <i>[initials]</i>					
13. <i>[initials]</i>					
14. <i>Key</i>					
15. <i>R</i>				<i>8-5</i>	

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KPI-341

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

*Radescu, General Nicolae*0-15-1
1-5
0-15

Country: PORTUGAL Date:

Subject: Rumanian Opposition Activities Info.: 23 May 1947

Origin: PORTUGAL *BD30* Rpt.: 28 May 1947

Evaluation: F-2 Pages: 4.

SOURCE: Barbu NICULESCU Ref.: KPI-258, of 7 April 1947.
Lisbon cable #022,
KPI-277, of 16 April 1947.

Since the arrival of General RADESCU on 2 April, efforts have been made to cultivate source, who is RADESCU's personal secretary and consequently better informed than any other of RADESCU's followers, concerning the party's activities. After having gained source's confidence, a meeting was arranged on 23 May, at which meeting source was to give us information which would bring us up to date on the activities of RADESCU's party. The result of this meeting is set out below:

1. Source was asked to identify the "other" Barbu NICULESCU (see Lisbon cable Nr. 047, of 21 May 1947). Source identified the Barbu NICULESCU who is now in Geneva as a young man of about 25 years of age, and whose mother posed as a communist leader in Rumania but merely used this as a cover to hide her activities as a member of the Rumanian opposition. Source knew nothing about the background of a third Barbu NICULESCU, but did know of his existence.

2. Source then seemed extremely anxious to clarify the position of RADESCU's party vis a vis the British. He started out by explaining that on March 6, 1945, General RADESCU was ousted as Premier of Rumania upon orders by VISHINSKI. A representative from the British Embassy in Bucharest immediately called upon RADESCU advising him that his life was in extreme danger and offered him asylum in the British Embassy. RADESCU accepted this offer and was under British protection, so to speak, until about June 20, 1945. The General was then advised by the British that he was no longer in danger, since the Rumanian agreement between Russia and the Allies gave him full protection, and thus it was no longer necessary for him to

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stay under their wing. Two or three days after the General left the confines of the British Embassy in Bucharest he was arrested in his home. During this time, [redacted] then attached to the American Mission in Rumania, asked to see RADESCU. In compliance with the American official's request, the Minister of Interior brought RADESCU to the American Embassy, where he was interviewed. Shortly after this meeting, RADESCU was released by the authorities, but was promptly put under house arrest as soon as [redacted] left Rumania. Thereafter NICULESCU was arrested on the grounds that he belonged to an organization which was attempting to overthrow the government and which published a clandestine newspaper under his supervision. He was imprisoned and not released until February, 1946. His release was brought about because the government had agreed to release all political prisoners. Being set free he immediately got in touch with General RADESCU, who was still under house arrest, and they began to plan their escape from Rumania. On June 15, a successful escape was made in a plane provided by army sympathizers. Their destination was Turkey, but they were forced to stop over in Cyprus. Upon landing in Cyprus, the British authorities received them cordially, made a routine check of the plane and then advised them that it was better not to fly further as the plane was in poor condition and they would be running a great risk. The authorities then informed them that they would make the necessary arrangements for them to leave Cyprus, and they expected to depart within a few days by ship. RADESCU stated that it was his intention to go to Switzerland, but the British suggested that he go to England first and from there proceed to Switzerland. The British also promised to help him obtain a Swiss visa. A few days after their arrival in Cyprus, the Colonial government advised RADESCU that a cable had been received, saying that MOLOTOV and BEVIN had conferred concerning RADESCU's escape and that MOLOTOV requested RADESCU be returned to Rumania. BEVIN's answer was that since General RADESCU was a political refugee, he was entitled by international law to receive the hospitality of a foreign country. The British were extremely anxious to have RADESCU stay in Cyprus and urged he remain until the Peace Conference was over. At this point, the General inquired if his Swiss visa had been obtained. The British authorities advised him that they were having a little difficulty obtaining permission from the Swiss government for him to enter Switzerland because the Swiss government was afraid that if they permitted RADESCU to go to Switzerland it might strain relations between them and Russia which could cause extreme difficulties because of the Russo-Swiss commercial agreement. The General then got in touch with his followers in France and tried to obtain a Swiss visa through them. They met with a moderate degree of success here as the Swiss authorities' reply to his request for a visa from France was that they would give him one on the condition that the French Government give him a re-entry permit before he made application for his Swiss visa. This dickering with the British went on until January. By this time, their funds were exhausted and they

informed

informed the British authorities of their plight, and added that because of this they would have to leave Cyprus. The British asked them to remain, adding that if they stayed they would be provided with all the money they needed while in Cyprus. RADESCU refused their offer on the grounds that he was not accomplishing anything in Cyprus and that it was absolutely necessary he go some place where he could carry on his work as an opposition leader. NICULESCU then asked a friend, whose name he refused to disclose, for financial aid, and received enough money to leave Cyprus for Portugal. In the meantime, they had received their Portuguese visas without British aid. The British upon hearing this prevailed upon them to remain and offered them a "better arrangement" if they stayed. RADESCU demanded what this "better arrangement" was, but since nothing definite could be offered refused to be lured. NICULESCU and RADESCU thereupon left for Marseilles by boat, from there went to Paris, Madrid and finally Lisbon.

3. While in Paris, they were contacted by British authorities and were told that the British Embassy in Lisbon would get in touch with them upon arrival. NICULESCU stated that the only British representatives they had seen since their arrival in Lisbon have been Colonel R.H.C. Drummond-WOLFF, the Military Attache, and Mr. N.C. TRENCH, Second Secretary. He added further that both of these British officials had merely dropped in once to pay their respects to General RADESCU, and that they had not seen him since.

Rebuck 4. Source then went on to explain that the underground organization in Rumania is very well organized, very well armed, and is only awaiting the day that Russia withdraws her army before going into action. He stated, however, that even though he is convinced they could overthrow the present government, were it not for the presence of the Russian military in Rumania (he estimated that the Russians have over 1 1/2 million men in Rumania, 600,000 of which are members of the Russian Army), it is doubtful if they could hold their position without military aid from the outside. At present, the underground is confining its activities to placing opposition leaders in key positions in the government, and in helping political prisoners to escape and take active part in the opposition.

5. NICULESCU further stated that through the underground he has learned that STALIN is responsible for the deaths of General ZHUKOV, General TIMOSHENKO, and General MILANOVSKY. The fact was then pointed out to him that current rumor is that ZHUKOV is alive, but has been sentenced to 15 years imprisonment. Source said that this was pure eye-wash and that he knows positively that ZHUKOV has been killed.

COMMENT:

Source's statement that the British did not help them obtain their visas to Portugal is somewhat contrary to the report made in paragraph 3 a) of

Lisbon

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Lisbon cable 022, KPL-277, of 16 April 1947. The source of information in this cable is the head of British C.E. in Portugal, and it is our opinion that his Government has merely instructed him not to contact RADESCU, but has not given him complete details of the attitude the British Government took towards RADESCU while he was in Cyprus. It is also highly probable that Brutus COSTE arranged for NICULESCU's and RADESCU's Portuguese visas, since it is known that he is on very good terms with Captain LOURENÇO of the P.I.D.E. In fact, COSTE is so well liked by the Portuguese authorities that even though he has not held a diplomatic post in Lisbon for quite some time they still permit him to use diplomatic license plates on his automobile.